

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 to 58 (cancelled).

59. (New) A multimeric hybrid gene encoding a chimeric protein including a protein from parainfluenza virus (PIV) and a protein from respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a PIV-3 protein or a fragment thereof having fusion activity or a PIV-3 HN protein or a fragment thereof having hemagglutinin-neuraminidase activity linked to a nucleotide sequence coding for a RSV G protein or a fragment thereof having attachment activity or a RSV F protein or a fragment thereof having fusion activity.

60. (New) The hybrid gene of claim 59 which is selected from the group consisting of F_{PIV-3} - F_{RSV} , F_{RSV} -HN $_{PIV-3}$ and hybrid genes.

61. (New) The hybrid gene of claim 59 contained in an expression vector.

62. (New) The hybrid gene of claim 61 in the form of a plasmid which is [selected from the group consisting of pAC DR7 (ATCC 75387)], pD2 RF-HN (ATCC 75388) [and pD2 F-G (ATCC 75389)].

63. (New) Eukaryotic cells containing the multimeric hybrid gene of claim 59 for expression of the chimeric protein encoded by the hybrid gene.

64. (New) The cells of claim 63 which are mammalian cells, insect cells, yeast cells or fungal cells.

65. (New) A vector for antigen delivery containing the gene of claim 59.

66. (New) The vector of claim 65 which is viral vector.

67. (New) The vector of claim 66 wherein said viral vector is selected from the group consisting of poxviral, adenoviral and retroviral viral vectors.

68. (New) The vector of claim 65 which is a bacterial vector.

69. (New) The vector of claim 68 wherein said bacterial vector is selected from salmonella and mycobacteria.

70. (Amended) A process for the preparation of a chimeric protein including a protein from parainfluenza virus (PIV) and a protein from respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), which comprises:

isolating a first nucleotide sequence encoding [a PIV-3 protein or a fragment thereof having fusion activity or] a PIV-3 HN protein or a fragment thereof having hemagglutinin-neurominidase activities,

isolating a second nucleotide sequence encoding a RSVF protein or a fragment thereof having fusion activity,

linking said first and second nucleotide sequences to form a multimeric hybrid gene, and

expressing the multimeric hybrid gene in a cellular expression system.

71. (New) The process of claim 70 wherein said multimeric hybrid gene is selected from the group consisting of F_{PIV-3} - G_{RSV} hybrid genes.

72. (New) The process of claim 70 wherein said multimeric hybrid gene is contained in an expression vector which is comprising a gene selected from the group consisting of pAC DR7 (ATCC 75387), pD2 RF-HN (ATCC 75388) [and pD2 F-G (ATCC 75389)].

73. (New) The process of claim 70 [71] wherein said cellular expression system is provided by mammalian cells, insect cells, yeast cells or fungal cells.

74. (New) The process of claim 70 including separating a chimeric protein from a culture of said eukaryotic cellular expression and purifying the separated chimeric protein.

75. (New) A chimeric protein including a protein from parainfluenza virus (PIV) and a protein from respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), comprising a PIV-3 F protein or a fragment thereof having fusion activity or a PIV-3 HN protein or a fragment thereof having hemagglutinin-neurominidase activity.

76. (New) The chimeric protein of claim 75 which is selected from the group consisting of F_{PIV-3} - F_{RSV} , F_{RSV} -HN_{PIV-3} and F_{PIV-3} - G_{RSV} hybrid genes.

Amendments to the Drawings:

Cancel the informal drawings submitted with the application and substitute therefor the formal drawings enclosed.